GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:49
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2015
Status of Ruins of Nalanda University
Kothapalli Smt. Geetha

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CULTURE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 49
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.11.2015
AGRAHAYANA 9, 1937 (SAKA)

STATUS OF RUINS OF NALANDA UNIVERSITY

49. SHRIMATI KOTHAPALLI GEETHA:

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has sent any proposal to UNESCO to include Ruins of Nalanda University in World Heritage List;
(b) if so, the details thereof along with the present status of the proposal;
(c) whether the UNESCO officials visited the ruins of the Nalanda University and other areas of the country; and
(d) if so, the details thereof and the findings thereof?

Answer

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE, CULTURE AND TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) AND MINISTER OF STATE, CIVIL AVIATION (DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a): Yes, Madam. The Government has sent the Nomination Dossier 'Excavated Remains of Nalanda Mahavihara' on 1st February 2015 to the World Heritage Centre, Paris to inscribe it on the World Heritage List.

(b): The International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) field evaluation mission led by Prof. Masaya Masui, visited Nalanda Mahavihara & its buffer from 25th to 29th of August 2015. After the mission ICOMOS asked for additional information which has been submitted.

(c)&(d): Yes, Madam. ICOMOS officials, advisory body of UNESCO World Heritage Centre, visited the Ruins of Nalanda University and other areas of the country. Sites visited by ICOMOS experts, other than Nalanda Mahavihara are the Architectural works of Le Corbusier in Chandigarh (trans-border serial nomination submitted by the French Government) and the cultural resources included in the proposal 'Kangchendzonga National park, a mixed property was also evaluated by an expert selected by the Internationl Union for Conservation of Nature (ICUN). Evaluation of these proposals is a closed-door process where the State Party is not involved and is discouraged from enquiring.

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